



SWARC NEWS-09/26

Notes from KF4LFK (Navin-SWARC President)

Dear SWARC members,

As we charge through the summer, the heart of hurricane season, and unpredictable heat, I want to thank everyone for being part of the community. Whether you are building antennas, checking into our weekly net, or mentoring newcomers, your enthusiasm keeps this club strong.

Looking Ahead:

Next Meeting: Join us Wednesday, September 2nd at 7:00 PM where we will feature a presentation on go-kits. Ok, well it's not a presentation – it's a petting zoo. Bring your toys, kits, packs, cases, even an old polaroid picture will do. We are looking forward to hearing the history, and evolution of how you got here, and the use cases where the kit brought you joy, saved you, or filled a critical gap in a complicated time.



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Public Service: Preparations are underway for our upcoming community events. Reach out to Dave (NW3U) if you want to help out.

License Classes & VE Testing: Know someone wanting to upgrade or get licensed? Richard (KR4LH) can help.

Finally, please remember our fellow hams and family members who are dealing with various medical situations. Please reach out to these folks. A phone call or text can brighten their day and give them encouragement through their recovery. We ask you to keep the following in your thoughts and prayers: Al, WA4TCJ, Linda, KI4LO, both of whom are limiting outside activities, Gary, KO4LQX, and Kenny, KJ4CVK. In addition, John Poplawski, WB4UFO, is experiencing some medical issues and is facing surgical procedures in the future.

Gary Plante, KO4LQX, reports:

I'm finally off the steroids and doing a little better but still struggling with the radiation damage. The neck is very sensitive and is one of the worst places to get radiation, so the damage and fibrosis is a struggle, but I'm still fighting the fight. Gary

Kenny, KJ4CVK, is in an assisted living facility, in Lillington.



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Remember our Section Manager, Marv Hoffman, WA4NC, who is recovering from a fall at his home in Boone. Also, remember the family of Rose Hampton Hamberstamf, who recently died from a short illness.

See you at the meeting, and on the air.

Thanks, and 73,

Navin

KF4LFW

Notes from KR4KFI (Erick- SWARC VP)

One of the things amateur radio teaches us is the value of being prepared. We may not know what the situation will be, but having the right equipment, supplies, and a plan can make a big difference when something unexpected happens.

As we head into the heart of hurricane season, that message is especially timely. What we've seen from major storms, including the impact on the mountains of Western North Carolina, reminds us that emergencies can happen anywhere. Hurricanes are just one example. The goal is to be prepared for whatever may come our way.

September Featured Topic: What's in Your Go Kit?



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Bring your 'go' kit and show us how you prepare for portable operations, public service events, emergencies, or simply operating away from home.

And let's think beyond the radio: Power, lighting, tools, first aid, food and water, weather gear, maps, documentation, and protecting yourself and your equipment can all be part of a good kit.

There's no perfect 'go' kit. Bring what you actually use, even if it's a work in progress. Share what works, what doesn't, and what experience has taught you.

Don't have one yet? Come get ideas, ask questions, and learn from other members.

One of the strengths of SWARC is the experience and knowledge within our membership. September is a chance to put some of that knowledge on the table, compare ideas, and hopefully leave all of us a little better prepared than when we arrived.

73,

Erick Verry, KR4KFI

Vice President

South Wake Amateur Radio Club

SWARC 5 AUGUST 2026 Meeting



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We were a little light on food this evening because some of our stalwarts were missing, but everyone, that wanted to, found something to eat!

Attendees: Dave, (NW3U), Rodney (KO4ZFO), Rich (KR4LH), Steve (NC4SW), Mike (KD4OKR), Bill (KK4QDZ), Erick (KR4KFI), Rich (KZ4ET) and Jane, Tom (KC2QVD), David (KQ4ZLK), Gator (K4MWG), Steve (NC4SW), Steve (WB4SMS), Christy (KJ4AEO), Ken (KN4GUS), new members Josh (KR4NVD) and Ellie (W4NYA) and guests Matt (N4MRW), Paul (KR4OCN), Jack (K4JJN) and Cecil (KM4ARS-former member).

MEETING MINUTES

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Gator (K4MWG) at 7:01 pm and was followed by introductions around the room. Vice President Erick (KR4KFI) led the meeting in the absence of Navin (KF4LFW).

We discussed the possibility of future hybrid meetings based upon board actions and suggestions.

Ken Castille discussed ideas for activities to encourage participation by newer hams as well as those who are not too 'radio-active' currently. *To wit, on Saturday, the 8th, a 'shack' night was held and members showed up to get on the air.*



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Tom Henry told us about his trip to Canada and operating there.

Other members chimed in with things they have done lately.

Dave (NW3U) announced that the public service event on Sunday the 9th could still use support, and he encouraged folks to consider helping.

Tom Henry presented the program on how to use a Nano NVA for measuring SWR of antennas, checking feed lines for losses, etc.

The meeting was adjourned around 7:55 pm.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Christy provided her report for this newsletter. August had income of \$200.00 comprised of dues and a donation. Expenses were \$152.08 for various fees and flowers for Rose (Hampton) Hamberstampf's funeral. Balance at end of month was \$3,590.08.

Public Service

To learn more about future events, you can go to <https://hpsnc.org/>. The public service season for 2026 is at least half done at this point!



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Check the HPSNC.org web site often for Public Service opportunities. The public service season is very active and events need volunteers. You may also get to public service events on the RARS and SWARC websites.

MEMBERSHIP

It is now time to renew your membership, if you have not already done so. You can pay at a meeting or send a check to the PO Box – OR ->

We currently have a link on our website which allows you to pay your dues or donate. Please let us know when you pay online by emailing me (Christy), so that I can ensure your payment is marked either for dues or a donation. The link for SWARC dues is:

https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://square.link/u/h0LLrbD6?src=sms/

You can bring a check or cash for dues to the next meeting or mail them to the club PO box and Christy will advise she has received them. Also, you can now renew online by contacting Christy and giving her the appropriate credit card info for the 'Square' account. Christy's email is christyfernandini@outlook.com. Make checks payable to South Wake ARC and send to South Wake ARC – PO Box 1565 – Fuquay Varina, NC 27526



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NET REPORTS

If you are a net control, please try to document your check-ins so that we can justify the trustee's provision of the repeater for our nets and other uses. **This can be done only on scrap paper, that you provide, and no longer requires entry into the spreadsheet.**

- Sunday evenings - KR4LH
- Monday evenings - KO4ZFO
- Tuesday evenings – KD4OKR
- Wednesday evenings except on meeting nights – KF4LFW
- Thursday evenings – KR4KFI
- Friday evenings - NC4MP
- Saturday evenings – KK4BK

Welcome to new substitute net controllers: CD Murphy (KM4IJK), Bryant Byrd (KQ4UHZ), Al Kinnamon (WA3JJG), and Mark McFarland (KD7AAG).

Please contact Navin Kalicharan (KF4LFW), if you are interested in calling one or more nets. **If you are a scheduled net controller and you cannot call your net, please reach out and ask someone else to call it for you!**



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SWARC Mission Statement

South Wake ARC's primary purpose is to further the Amateur Radio Service through programs, activities, and education, in order to promote the radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency of its members. Further, it shall be our purpose to support the welfare of our community through public service including radio communications for emergency situations and public events, and through providing information, training, and assistance to individuals or organizations with an interest in the Amateur Radio Service. Refer to the SWARC web site for the Board of Directors/Officers and Appointed Positions.

LINKS (if you have other links that you want added, send them to me)

PRN

A Wide Area Digital Amateur Radio Network

www.ncprn.net

GigaParts

www.gigaparts.com

QRZ

www.qrz.com

Ham Radio Outlet HRO

www.hamradio.com

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society RARS

www.rars.org

Johnson Amateur Radio Society JARS

www.jars..net



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South Wake Amateur Radio Club SWARC

www.southwakearc.com

Carolina 440 Network

www.carolina440.net

North Carolina Packet

www.ncpacket.com

TARPN (Terrestrial Amateur Packet Radio Net)

www.tarpn.net

Useful Ham Info

www.torborg.com/a

Five County Ham Radio Enthusiasts

www.fivecountyhre.org

Ham Study (Exam Tools)

www.hamstudy.org

Due to formatting issues, I will forward the most recent ARRL News to all members, regardless of your membership in ARRL or not!

The following comments and information are extracted from one of our NC Section Manager's recent monthly newsletters.

ARRL MATTERS:

The ham radio community has likely never had more opportunities to be involved and active!

We have just finished the largest participation event of the year which



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is Field Day.

Besides the hamfests that are listed in each newsletter, there are numerous opportunities for activation in the Parks on the Air and Summits on the Air program.

The weather, while warm, is not the brutal cold of winter so it is a good time to get outside and work on antennas or to participate in a fox hunt.

When it is too hot or too cold, build something!

Just think of all the radio-related things that you can be doing that will keep ham radio active and fun for you and others.

Get on the air!

UPCOMING AMATEUR RADIO EVENTS

CAPE FEAR HAMFEST, August 8, sponsored by the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society, held at the Cumberland County Shrine Club, 7040 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville. Information available soon.

Huntsville Hamfest, August 21-23, held at the Von Braun Center, 700 Monroe St., Huntsville, AL 35801



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SHELBY HAMFEST 09/04/2026 - 09/05/2026, sponsored by the Shelby Amateur Radio Club, held at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds. Large outdoor flea market, indoor and outdoor space for dealers, forums, license exams, food. Information at <https://shelbyhamfest.org/>.

SILENT KEYS

When I learn of Silent Keys through a club newsletter or when someone sends a note that a friend, club member or family member has died I notify ARRL and request that the name and callsign of the ham be listed on the Silent Key page in QST. Feel free to let me know about Silent Keys so that I can make sure he or she is listed in QST.

OPPORTUNITY TO OPERATE AT NC STATE FAIR

For several years, Travis Russell (KN4WJL) has organized space for ham radio operators to have a tent and table at the NC State Fair (October 15-25). Volunteers are offered free admission if they sign up for one of the six-hour time slots (9am-3pm or 3 pm-9pm over the days that the Fair is open). This involves talking to the public, including kids, about ham radio. Ham radio stations are demonstrated and ARRL literature is provided for distribution to the public. There are lots of food options at the State Fair. If interested, go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1554722855686391>



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Best wishes to each of you,

Marv, WA4NC
NC Section Manager
Boone

ARRL North Carolina Section
Section Manager: Dr Marvin K Hoffman, WA4NC
wa4nc@arrl.org